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Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1. (Cancel) A spacer block for attaching a guard rail to a post, comprising:
a pair of spaced apart opposing side walls having respective first ends and second ends;
a top panel disposed proximate said first end of said side walls;
a bottom panel disposed proximate said second end of said side walls;
said top panel said bottom panel and side walls forming a generally rectangular block having
a first front face and a second rear face;
an engagement mechanism operably coupled proximate said top panel, said engagement
mechanism operable to engage said block with said post;
resting mechanism operably coupled proximate said bottom panel for supporting a bottom
edge of a guard rail thereon;
at least one mounting bore extending there through from said first front face to said second
rear face; and
an alignment mechanism operably coupled to at least one side wall.

Claim 2. (Currently amended) The spacer block of claim [1] 12 comprising a thermoplastic
polymer and a rubber material.

Claim 3. (Currently amended) The spacer block of claim [1] 12, comprising a structural foam
thermoplastic composition.

Claim 4. (Currently amended) The spacer block of claim [1] 12, comprising a structural foam
thermoplastic and rubber composition.

Claim 5. (Currently amended) The spacer block of Claim [1] 12, further comprising:
a medial wall disposed between the side walls, the medial wall positioned generally
perpendicular to the side walls and generally parallel to the top and bottom panels;

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FEB 20 2004

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